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Identical letters dated 23 July 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The illegal international coalition led by the United States of America has committed a number of new crimes against innocent Syrian civilians. On 13, 16 and 21 July 2018, coalition warplanes bombarded residential areas in the villages of Baghuz Fawqani and Susah in the hinterland of the city of Albu Kamal in the governorate of Dayr al-Zawr. They also targeted civilians who were leaving the villages to flee the terrorist acts of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), killing 32 civilians, most of them women and children.

The coalition continues to commit war crimes and crimes against humanity against the Syrian people. It supports terrorism and uses terrorists and separatist militias to achieve its objectives, thereby belying any claims made by the United States of America and other States members of the despicable coalition about the protection of civilians in armed conflict, the rights of refugees, respect for international humanitarian law and respect for the territorial integrity of Syria and its people. The coalition's crimes highlight the fact that the United Nations and the Security Council have failed to take any action to implement international law and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. They have failed to put an end to the activities of that coalition and its hostile schemes to target the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic in order to prolong the crisis there.

The Syrian Arab Republic once again calls on the Security Council to shoulder its responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security, to condemn these massacres, and to take immediate action to stop them and prevent their recurrence. The Security Council must put an end to the hostile and illegal presence on Syrian territory of United States forces and other foreign forces, and prevent them from implementing their schemes to support terrorism, undermine the security and stability of the Syrian Arab Republic, and prolong the crisis there.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mounzer **Mounzer**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Minister Plenipotentiary

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